

COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 3, 2004 (BOS Mtg. – 11/16/04)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: James O. McReynolds, County Administrator

SUBJECT: Six-Year Secondary Road Improvement Program—FY05-06 to FY10-11

Issue

Every year the Board of Supervisors must review and adopt a priority listing for the use of the secondary road improvement funds projected to be allocated to York County over the next six years and a construction budget for the first year of the program (FY2005-06). The Code of Virginia requires that public comment be solicited through a duly advertised public hearing jointly conducted by the Board of Supervisors and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). Following the public hearing, the Board recommends a priority listing to VDOT.

The Board conducted a work session on September 14, 2004 to discuss potential projects with Mr. David Steele, VDOT Interim Resident Engineer, and to provide its guidance and direction to staff. In accordance with the discussion at that work session, the proposed Six-Year Plan has been scheduled for public hearing at the Board's November 16th meeting.

Considerations

1. The six-year funding window allows projects to be prioritized such that engineering and right-of-way acquisition can proceed in advance of construction funding. In this manner, projects move through the program in a logical pattern that accommodates the often long lead times necessary to undertake significant improvements. Attachment 1 lists the projects that have been included on the Six-Year Secondary Plan between 1991 and 2004.
2. As the Board will recall, several years ago VDOT found it necessary to significantly reduce the allocations for Secondary System projects. In York County, allocations were reduced by almost 40% from the amounts that had been projected in 2001. The stressed budgetary conditions are continuing and VDOT is now projecting allocations in the first four years of the plan to be \$200,000 - \$300,000 less (per year) than was projected at the time of the last update. In years 5 and 6, the allocations could be as much as \$500,000 less (per year) than previously projected. Attachment 2 compares the current and previously projected allocations. Clearly, this trend in allocations, coupled with the increasing cost of road construction, will have significant impacts on project schedules.

3. The projects on the Secondary Six Year Plan adopted by the Board in February 2004 are listed on Attachment 3. As was noted at the September 14th work session, based on projected future allocations, it does not appear that any new projects could be added to the Plan unless one or more projects are dropped.
4. The major highlights of the proposed Six-Year Plan are as follows:
 - At the recommendation of Mr. Steele, the project priorities have been adjusted to reflect the chronological order in which projects are scheduled to be advertised for construction.
 - The Cary's Chapel Road/Victory Boulevard intersection improvements and the Big Bethel Road intersection improvements at Victory Boulevard and Route 134 should be under construction in 2005. The improvements are intended to enhance safety and capacity at these heavily traveled intersections. As the Board will recall, the Cary's Chapel Road project received a \$1.41 million budget supplement from the special Congestion Relief funds made available by the Governor and allocated through a decision-making process involving both the region and the Governor. This supplemental funding allowed the project schedule to be advanced by almost three years from the original July 2006 advertisement date. The additional benefit of this funding is that it frees up a significant amount of Secondary System funds for allocation to the County's other priorities.
 - Although listed on the Secondary Roads Six-Year Plan, funding for the Fort Eustis Boulevard extension project is from Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) and Revenue Sharing funds. As requested by the Board, VDOT has broken the project into two phases and is giving priority to the segment between Route 17 and Old York-Hampton Highway, which is scheduled to be advertised for construction in May 2005.
 - The Grafton Drive/Rainbrook connection has been advanced considerably as a result of the Board's authorization of right-of-way acquisition to accommodate a portion of the project. Depending on the amount of Revenue Sharing funding able to be allocated to the project, it may be possible to advertise for construction sometime in 2005.
 - The Lakeside Drive turning lane project has been revised in scope to address comments received at a 2003 public hearing. A second public hearing was conducted by VDOT on October 27, 2004 and, assuming that no further major changes are needed, VDOT will begin the right-of-way acquisition process that will lead up to a 2006 construction advertisement date. It should be noted that VDOT has worked diligently on this project to minimize the amount of right-

of-way acquisition and, thereby, the impact on adjoining properties.

- The Penniman Road project will improve the segment between Fillmore Drive and Alexander Lee Parkway and, in particular, will improve the alignment and safety of the Penniman Road/Government Road intersection. The funding proposed in the FY05-06 budget year will allow the right-of-way acquisition phase of the project to get underway in anticipation of a 2007 advertisement date.
 - Because of diminishing fund allocations and increasing project costs, the Burts Road connector and the Yorkville Road curve improvement projects have been pushed back to advertisement dates in 2010 and 2012, respectively.
 - Unless Secondary System allocations can be increased in the future, escalating project costs will continue to impact the schedules for the projects on the Six-Year Plan and will limit the Board's ability to add new projects to the improvement program
5. In summary, the allocations proposed for consideration for FY2005-06 are as follows:

Project	Budget -2005/06
Total Countywide Allocation for incidentals (culverts, etc.)	\$170,000
Cary's Chapel Road intersection @ Victory Blvd.	\$141,000
Big Bethel Road intersections	\$263,813
Grafton Drive Connector	\$370,000
Lakeside Drive	\$298,104
Penniman Road	\$118,530
TOTAL	\$1,361,447

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Planning Commission has previously found all of these projects to be fully in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan, as required by the Code of Virginia.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION

I believe that the Six Year Plan proposal developed by the Resident Engineer and staff represents a good approach to keeping the County's Secondary System improvement priorities on-track in the face of reduced allocations and escalating costs. Staff stands ready to provide any additional details that the Board may desire based on its discussions or on any comments received at the public hearing. Assuming that the public hearing does not result in a change of projects and priorities, I recommend

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adoption of proposed Resolution No. R04-163.

Carter/3337

Attachments

- Summary Listing of Projects (1991 to 2004)
- Allocations Table
- Six-Year Secondary Road Construction Plan
- Proposed Resolution No. R04-163

Copy to: David Steele, P.E., Interim Resident Engineer, VDOT